

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X  
JEFFERY GOODSON

Plaintiff,

- against -

**08 CIV 1130**  
**ANSWER**

NEW YORK CITY, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION;  
ROMAN-DAVID TROJANOWSKI, SOCIAL WORKER  
COLLEEN KIERNAN, M.A. ASSIST MENTAL HEALTH  
MANAGER

KALU N. AGWU, M.D. PSYCHIATRY  
SALOME L. OTT PH.D. CLINICAL SUPERVISOR  
S. RASHEED, M.D., PSCHIARY  
RICHELLE WILLIAMS, M.A.  
A.K.M. QUYYUM M.D. PSYCHIATRY  
JANET A. SENDAR, PSY. D. CLINICA SUPERVISOR  
BIMALENDU GANGULY, M.D.  
AZMAT HASAN, M.D.  
DAVID VIERA, RPA-C  
PETER HERZ, M.D.  
ANUMA ULU, M.D.  
LAALI A. ALI, M.D.  
MATTHEW BARNES, M.D.  
BABATONDE FAGBAMIYE, M.D.

**TRIAL BY JURY**  
**DEMANDED**

Defendants.  
-----X

Defendant RICHELLE WILLIAMS s/h/a RICHELLE WILLIAMS, M.A. by her  
attorneys, HEIDELL, PITTONI, MURPHY & BACH, LLP, Of Counsel to MICHAEL A.  
CARDOZO, ESQ., Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, upon information and belief,  
answers the complaint herein as follows:

FIRST: Denies the allegations contained in the paragraphs of the complaint  
designated "1" through "3" insofar as the allegations pertain to the answering defendant.

**AS AND TO THE SECTION DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

SECOND: Denies the allegations contained in the paragraphs of the complaint designated “1” through “7” insofar as the allegations pertain to the answering defendant.

**AS AND TO THE SECTION DESIGNATED STATEMENT OF FACTS**

THIRD: Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in the paragraphs of the complaint designated “1,” and otherwise begs leave to refer all questions of law to the court and all questions of fact to the trier thereof.

FOURTH: Denies the allegations contained in the paragraph of the complaint designated “2.”

**AS AND TO THE SECTION DESIGNATED CONCLUSION**

FIFTH: Denies the allegations contained in that paragraph of the complaint insofar as the allegations pertain to the answering defendant and otherwise begs leave to refer all questions of law to the court and all questions of fact to the trier thereof.

**FOR A FIRST DEFENSE**

SIXTH: That this action was not commenced against defendant until after the expiration of the time period specified in the applicable statute of limitations and any recovery based on the alleged causes of action herein is barred.

**FOR A SECOND DEFENSE**

SEVENTH: That whatever damages may have been sustained at the time and place alleged in the complaint by plaintiff were caused, in whole or in part, by the culpable conduct of plaintiff and without any negligence on the part of defendant. Damages, if any, are to be diminished proportionally to the culpable conduct of the plaintiff.

**FOR A THIRD DEFENSE**

EIGHTH: That as to the cause of action set forth in the complaint based upon alleged failure to obtain an informed consent, defendant pleads the defenses in Public Health Law, Section 2805-d.

**FOR A FOURTH DEFENSE**

NINTH: That one or more causes of action in the complaint fail to state a cause of action upon which relief may be granted.

**FOR A FIFTH DEFENSE**

TENTH: Plaintiff has failed to mitigate his alleged damages claimed herein.

**FOR A SIXTH DEFENSE**

ELEVENTH: That defendant denies that she is liable in any way to plaintiff under any legal theory because of the doctrine of immunity, whether qualified, sovereign, statutory or otherwise.

**FOR A SEVENTH DEFENSE**

TWELFTH: That plaintiff is not entitled to recover damages in this action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

**FOR A EIGHTH DEFENSE**

THIRTEENTH: Plaintiff may not properly assert a cause of action against the answering defendant for violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

**FOR A NINTH DEFENSE**

FOURTEENTH: That the occurrence alleged in Plaintiff's complaint was caused, contributed to and brought about, in whole or in part, by the conduct of persons over whom this defendant exercised no supervision or control, including the plaintiff, such conduct amounting to contributory negligence, and the damages and injuries otherwise recoverable by plaintiff, if any,

should be diminished in proportion to which such person(s)' conduct bears to the conduct which caused decedent's injuries and damages, if any, pursuant to the decisional and statutory laws of the State of New York and the United States in such cases made and provided.

**FOR A TENTH DEFENSE**

FIFTEENTH: That this defendant alleges and states that plaintiff's claim for relief is barred, because plaintiff and plaintiff's representatives assumed the risk and were fully cognizant of any and all circumstances surrounding the events that gave rise to this action.

**FOR A ELEVENTH DEFENSE**

SIXTEENTH: That this defendant alleges and states that there were intervening and superseding acts and occurrences over which she had no control and which caused any claimed injuries of plaintiff.

**FOR A TWELFTH DEFENSE**

SEVENTEENTH: That this defendant reserves the right to amend her answer and/or affirmative defenses that may be determined applicable in the future by discovery in this matter.

**FOR A THIRTEENTH DEFENSE**

EIGHTEENTH: That this defendant denies any and all allegations of plaintiff's complaint not specifically admitted herein.

WHEREFORE, defendant RICHELLE WILLIAMS s/h/a RICHELLE WILLIAMS, M.A., demands judgment dismissing the complaint herein, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: New York, New York  
July 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

HEIDELL, PITTONI, MURPHY & BACH, LLP  
Of Counsel to MICHAEL A. CARDOZO, ESQ.,  
Corporation Counsel of the City of New York

By:



AUSTA S. DEVLIN (AD 8811)

Attorneys for Defendant

RICHELLE WILLIAMS s/h/a RICHELLE  
WILLIAMS, M.A.

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TO: *Pro Se* Jeffery Goodson  
07-A-1685  
Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility  
Box 2071  
1000 Mt. McGregor Road  
Wilton, New York 12866-0996

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

STATE OF NEW YORK     )  
  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK    )

**DIANA GRECEQUET-ALVAREZ**, being sworn, says:

I am not a party to the action, am over 18 years of age and am employed by HEIDELL, PITTONI, MURPHY & BACH, LLP.

On **July 31, 2008**, I served a true copy of the annexed **ANSWER** in the following manner: by mailing the same in a sealed envelope, with postage prepaid thereon, in a post-office or official depository of the U.S. Postal Service within the State of New York, addressed to the last-known address of the addressee(s) as indicated below:

*Pro Se* Jeffery Goodson  
07-A-1685  
Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility  
Box 2071  
1000 Mt. McGregor Road  
Wilton, New York 12866-0996

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DIANA GRECEQUET-ALVAREZ

Sworn to before me this  
1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

MARIE A. DIBIASE  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01D14684071  
Qualified in Queens County  
Commission Expires April 30, 20 10